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**ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY**

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Jane Dee Hull  
Governor

John L. Clayton  
Director

August 15, 2002

**WORKFORCE INFORMATION MEMO (WIM) #12-02**

**SUBJECT: Establishing Linkages with Faith-Based and Grassroots Community Organizations**

Within the past several months, the Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (CFBCI) at the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) conducted a full-scale review of DOL programs nationally, to find out which programs within its purview collaborated with faith-based and community organizations to support program participants. DOL learned that the number of such collaborations was quite small, due in part to the complexity of regulations and reporting requirements that are at times beyond the ability of many small organizations to manage. As a result, DOL is actively seeking ways to reduce paperwork and support strong linkages among state workforce agencies, One-Stop partners, Local Workforce Investment Boards (LWIBs) and faith-based/community-based organizations throughout the country.

In early July, DOL announced awards for the first grants specifically designed to link faith-based and community-based organizations (FBOs/CBOs) with the nation's One-Stop Career System. Through the efforts of the state's Employment Security Administration, Arizona became the recipient of one of these initial grants totaling \$522,966, to help fund a statewide initiative to develop linkages with FBOs/CBOs and the Arizona Workforce Connection. These grant funds, to be administered by the state Department of Commerce (DOC), will be used to (1) coordinate the identification and cataloging of FBOs/CBOs in each LWIA; (2) document and share promising practices used by LWIAs in developing new partnerships; (3) coordinate seminars, meetings, and introductions among FBOs/CBOs and LWIA partners at the state and local level; (4) assist LWIAs in identifying, developing and expanding relationships with FBOs/CBOs, as well as developing appropriate Memorandums of Understanding; (5) develop criteria for disbursing computers to expand access to applications and web sites sponsored by FBOs/CBOs, in collaboration with LWIA partner programs; and (6) produce and submit quarterly narrative and financial reports as instructed by DOL.

In the coming weeks, Teri Glaser of DOC will be contacting each LWIA to discuss designation of a contact person on the local board who will serve as the liaison between the LWIB and DOC in advancing FBO/CBO and One-Stop collaborations throughout the state.



Enclosed with this memo (program directors only) is a resource kit entitled, "Faith-Based & Community Organization Outreach, Coordinator Version." This kit, developed by CFBCI and the Center for Employment Security, Education and Research, provides important information on accessing federal resources related to the FBO/CBO initiative. It also offers local areas a public speaker's guide, a briefing session guide, and related PowerPoint presentations on compact disk, intended to enhance local efforts to educate and integrate FBOs/CBOs in their workforce systems. Additional kits may be requested through the CFBCI web site at [www.dol.gov/cfbcj](http://www.dol.gov/cfbcj).

We strongly encourage all LWIAs to utilize these resources to build stronger, more diverse partnerships with faith-based and community-based organizations within their communities, to bring greater opportunities to those in need. Please contact Ms. Pat Gregan, Planning and Program Development Manager, at (602) 542-3957 if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Stan Flowers  
Program Administrator (Actg)  
Workforce Development Administration

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Enclosure